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May 11, 2010

Arizona Corporation Commission
Docket Control
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Phoenix, AZ 85007



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DOCKET No. E-00000J-10-0044

This a letter from David Delorea filed in the recent APS rate case

Arizona Corporation Commission

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February 19, 2009

David Deloera

[REDACTED]
Avondale, AZ 85323

Arizona Corporation Commission
1200 W. Washington
Phoenix, AZ 85007

RE: Docket No. E-01345A-08-0172

Dear Commissioners:

My slice of the American pie was a nice house and a big backyard. My journey began in 2004 when I sold my house, got rid of my mortgage and moved into a travel trailer to save my money. I saved and I saved to have enough for a suitable down payment on my own parcel of land. I spent months looking for the perfect lot and finally found a nice acre west of Phoenix. The price was affordable, and the seller agreed to let me make payments with interest until I paid him off. After saving more money and making timely payments for two years, I was ready to begin construction on my dream home. I could do most of the work myself; all I had to do was pay for material and some labor. So on a hot summer night I was out measuring the part of my lot where my house would be, and my neighbor pulls up in his truck, cursing and yelling. It seems that he had been talking to APS about hooking up power to a well he had drilled to provide water for his cattle and they had changed some policy and it was now going to cost him nearly \$20,000 to extend power. I asked him why the cost was so high, and he replied that the well was 450 feet from the nearest power pole, and APS isn't giving the little guy any kind of break.

As my neighbor was giving me his opinion of APS, I was figuring the measurements for my lot, which was around 800 feet from the nearest power pole, probably closer to 900 feet. At that moment I knew I was sunk. When I bought the land I figured there was going to be a minimal fee to hook up the power, but \$35,000 is more money than I paid for the lot.

After I verified the cost and going over my figures repeatedly, I finally had to give in to the fact that I wasn't going to have enough money to build my home. I looked into solar and other alternative energy sources, but they were even more expensive. I figured that if I could get what I paid for it, and get my money back, I would just move back to Phoenix and buy another house. For nine more months I made my monthly payments and on several occasions I had to inform potential buyers that it was going to cost \$35,000 to pull lines to the property line. "Well thanks a lot!" they would say as they pulled away. I was defeated and tired of making payments on useless land. I couldn't build on it, I couldn't sell it and in the end I had to give it back to the seller, losing everything I had saved so hard for. I would like to give APS a heart-felt thank you! So much for my American dream.

I guess any guy who wants to build his own house is a "developer", and the public perception of "developers" is greedy and rich and of course nobody thinks we should give the greedy developers anything free. Make the developer pay for everything. Maybe the Corporation Commission should take a look at the term "developer", and define whether or not I fall in that category. Maybe then they will give me back my American dream.

Signed,

David Deloera